

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47), Vice Chair of the House Homeland Security Committee, today issued the following statement regarding President Obama’s pending nomination of John Pistole, current deputy director of the FBI, as chief of the Transportation Security Administration:

“I welcome President Obama’s nomination of John Pistole as head of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). In the sixteen months that TSA has been without a leader, our country has experienced two airline-related terrorist incidents. First, there was the Christmas Day bombing attempt. More recently, the suspect in the Times Square bomb case, Faisal Shahzad, managed to board a getaway flight to Dubai even though his name was flagged on the no-fly list. More than anything, I think these cases illustrate the need for a confident, capable leader who is ready to do whatever it takes to secure our country against potential threats. For the sake of our transportation security and overall security operations, I hope the Senate will move quickly to confirm Mr. Pistole’s nomination.”